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Public Health Reports

Treasury Department, United States Marine-Hospital Service. Published in accordance with act of Congress approved February 15, 1893.

VOL. XIV. WASHINGTON, D. C., NOVEMBER 10, 1899. No. 45.

UNITED STATES.

Officers of the United States Marine-Hospital Service to serve in Spanish ports for the purpose of inspecting emigrants for the United States.

Upon the recommendation of the Secretary of the Treasury, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, the President has directed the detail of P. A. Surg. James A. Nydegger and Asst. Surg. John F. Anderson, of the United States Marine-Hospital Service, to serve in the offices of the United States consul at Cadiz and United States consul-general at Barcelona, Spain, respectively. These officers will assist the consuls who are now enforcing the quarantine regulations of the Treasury Department to be observed at foreign ports by vessels bound for the United States, Cuba, and Porto Rico, and will sign the bills of health with the consuls. From these two ports these officers will have surveillance over emigration from Spain and Portugal. Practically all the emigration from Portugal, where plague prevails (in Oporto), comes through Spanish ports. These details are the result of a recent inspection by a medical officer of the Marine-Hospital Service.

[Reports to the Surgeon-General United States Marine-Hospital Service.]

Yellow fever in Key West, Fla., and other places.

[Continued from last PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS.]

FLORIDA.

Miami—Camp McAdam.—November 3: Passed Assistant Surgeon Stimpson reports that 100 persons are in camp, including employees and officers—44 refugees; 8 arrived to-day. One case of yellow fever found among them and taken immediately to hospital.

November 4: He reports 7 refugees received in camp and 7 new cases of fever in Miami yesterday.

November 6: Assistant Surgeon Fricks is relieved from duty at Key West and ordered to report to Passed Assistant Surgeon Stimpson at Miami for duty.

Key West.—November 3, 2 cases; November 4, 2 cases; November 5, 6 cases.

LOUISIANA.

New Orleans.—Surgeon Carter telegraphs as follows:

November 3, 2 new cases, 2 deaths. Texas raised freight quarantine last night; continues that against passengers. Alabama raises all quarantine at 12 to-morrow save on used household goods. All of our force discontinued save clerk and stenographer; latter leaves to-morrow. * * *

November 4, 1 new case reported.

Frost in the South—Mississippi and part of Louisiana raise quarantine.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., November 1, 1899.

SIR: On the afternoon of the 28th the temperature began to drop in this section, and culminated in a "norther," lasting until this morning. There was decided frost over the country, from Texas to Alabama, not including the latter State. I do not know the temperature in Texas, save that frost was reported for Houston and the points north of that city. The weather was decidedly colder in the western part of the district in which it occurred than in the east, it being reported at 32° at Robeline, La. In Jackson and adjacent territory, and down the lines of the Illinois Central as far as Amite, there was good frost both Monday and Tuesday mornings. When I left Jackson last night about 12 o'clock the thermometer was standing at 43° and falling, so there should have been another frost this morning. I do not think this cold spell extended to the same extent to the eastward, and I doubt if frost reached Alabama, except the western portion.

After consultation the Mississippi board raised the quarantine against everything save household goods. The same action was taken by the parishes in western and northern Louisiana which had quarantined, save Calcasieu. This action, in my mind, was safe, as yellow fever will not form a focus of infection in these places.

The camp for suspects at Jackson was discontinued yesterday. The tents will be left standing for seven days for thorough aeration. Such bedding as has been used will be aired in the sun and wind for the same length of time and then shipped back to Fontainebleau. I think the camp has been a considerable factor in diminishing the rapidity of spread in Jackson, which is the same thing at this season of the year as advancing the advent of frost, and I think that and the other sanitary measures taken there, give us probably less than one-third of the cases we would have had without it. Still, the main factor in the delay of spread in Jackson was the cool weather in the end of September.

All inspectors of freight trains, boats, etc. for the territory, which I regard now as uninfected, have been removed.